

Top Secret



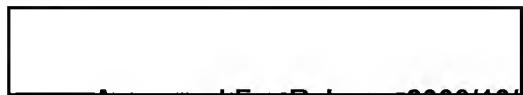
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GERMANY-USSR: The West Germans hope to break the current impasse in East-West German negotiations on a general treaty by enlisting Soviet aid.

State Secretary Egon Bahr informed the Allied ambassadors yesterday that although he and his East German counterpart, Michael Kohl, had reached agreement on a number of minor issues, the negotiations were at a "crisis" stage because there has been no movement on the major political issues. Bahr said that, after a meeting with Chancellor Brandt and several West German ministers, it was decided he should go to Moscow on 8 October to seek a way out of the deadlock. Bahr plans to meet with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov, and then return to Bonn on 10 October for the next round of the talks with Kohl. Bahr mentioned also that Brandt may inform Soviet party leader Brezhnev by letter what the West Germans can and cannot accept in the general treaty.

Bahr implied to the ambassadors that the Soviets had already approved his trip to Moscow, but added that Soviet Ambassador to West Germany Falin had recently expressed the view that the East Germans had about reached the limits of possible concessions.

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